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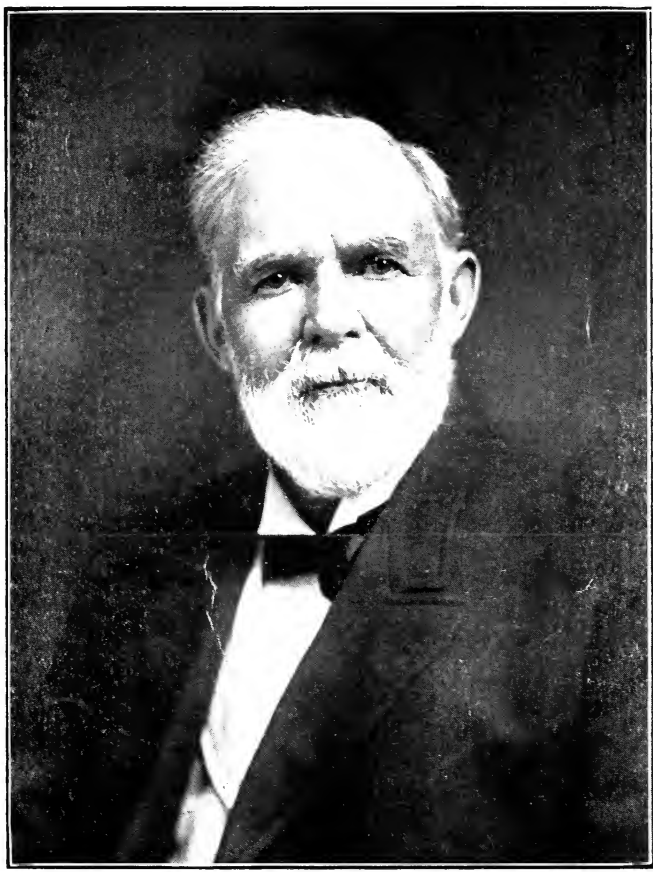
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POMOLOGY AND HORTICULTURE  
INVESTIGATIONS  
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Answered

# Descriptive Catalog Peach Belt Nurseries



The late Alexander Hamilton, who founded the nurseries over 40 years ago. A thorough horticulturist and one of the men who gave western Michigan its start in the fruit industry.

## A. Hamilton & Sons, Props. Bangor, Michigan



View along the drive between two of the Nursery farms.



One of our apple orchards as seen along the highway, bending to the ground with fruit.



## Concerning the Nursery

Peach Belt Nursery was commenced in western Allegan county, Mich., over forty years ago, and was moved to Bangor, Van Buren county, in the spring of 1896.

The nursery is not as large as many others, but we feel sure there is no better anywhere, and it contains as many trees as can be properly cultivated and cared for under our personal supervision. The land we use for nursery purposes is a strong, loamy soil specially prepared for growing strong, healthy, well-ripened nursery stock. Long before we ever heard of plant breeding or bud variations we practiced getting our start of buds from time to time from trees of each variety that were remarkable for producing more and better fruit than did the other trees of the same variety. We therefore feel certain that besides being free from the diseases and insects now so common in bearing orchards, our trees grown from such ancestry will produce more and better fruit than will trees grown in nurseries where only buds from bearing orchards are used, and as to early bearing we can easily demonstrate there are no trees that beat ours.

Our nurseries are inspected annually by the State Inspector of Nurseries and by ourselves and help every time we go over the trees in sprouting, cultivating and trimming; persons who buy home-grown nursery stock from us may therefore rely on getting trees that are free from yellows, little peach, aphid and other dangerous pests and diseases now becoming so common in many places. Do not believe the tree peddler who tells you his trees are yellows proof because they are grown in the East where, he says, they have no yellows. The facts are his trees have scarcely ever proved as satisfactory in any respect as have the home-grown, and there is no section in the North where many commercial orchards are grown that they do not have some yellows.

Our long experience in growing trees in Western Michigan has convinced us that as healthy trees as are produced anywhere in the world can be and are grown right here at Bangor. This is accomplished by the methods we use in preparing our nursery ground, the care we exercise in selecting seeds and buds and the thorough attention we give our trees from the time seed is prepared until trees are dug and delivered.

Planters therefore who desire to purchase good, honest, healthy, home-grown trees that are grown by careful, practical nurserymen who understand their business, and have had over forty years' experience in growing trees for the great peach orchards of Western Michigan, are cordially invited to visit our nursery and fruit farm and select such trees as they want. If inconvenient to visit us, mail orders will be carefully attended to, or orders may be handed to friends of our nursery who are furnished our trees in car lots and sell them at nursery prices, thus saving the grower the freight.

Strangers can inform themselves regarding our responsibility by inquiring at any of the banks of western Van Buren and Allegan counties, and may learn about our trees and methods of doing business almost anywhere in the Michigan peach belt, where for over a quarter of a century we have sold nearly all the trees we have grown, amounting to from 50,000 to 300,000 per annum.

Correspondence solicited. All letters of inquiry answered to the best of our ability.  
Address,

*A. Hamilton & Sons, Bangor, Michigan*  
*Telephone No. 12*

## *Announcements, Conditions of Sale, Etc*

**Guarantee of Genuineness.** We do our best to avoid mistakes in labeling and fully believe our trees are true to name, and all our trees are sold with the express understanding and agreement with the purchaser when he orders and receives his trees that should any not prove true to name we will refund the money paid for such, or replace the trees with others that are true; but are not liable for damages other than herein named. The above is substantially the same guarantee that is given by all the leading responsible nurseries of the United States and Canada. In our thirty years' business very few mistakes have occurred and none to speak of with trees of our own growing. Planters therefore who bought trees of us a third of a century ago are still customers and friends of the nursery. The care it is known we take to avoid mistakes in this respect is valued more highly than any guarantee we could give.

**Regarding the Replacing of Trees.** The trees and plants sold by us will be found up to grade, full count, alive, healthy and in good condition when they are delivered to the purchaser or transportation company, but on account of the careless way trees are so frequently handled in being allowed to stand out in bundles and dry out between the time they are received and planted, and on account of poor planting and cultivation, unfavorable seasons, cut worms and many other causes of failure for which we are in no way responsible, we will not and ought not to be expected to replace trees if they are alive and all right when they leave our hands. If, however, by some oversight, any trees are not all right when delivered as above stated, they will be cheerfully replaced or money refunded if notified on receipt of goods.

**Boxing for Transportation.** While our business is nearly entirely with home planters, we occasionally get orders from distant growers, and to such we will say their orders will receive as good treatment as if they were here and could select their own trees. Goods will be packed in a thorough manner in boxes or bales. We use every precaution for the safe and rapid transportation of goods, but will not be responsible for delay or damage to stock while in transit caused through the fault of forwarders. In ordering kindly state whether goods are to go by freight or express and what route. Where no instructions are given we use our best judgment.

**Terms.** Our terms are cash on delivery of trees or before shipment. On account of our largely increased cash expenses nothing but cash payment could enable or induce us to grow and sell trees at the low price nursery stock is now being sold. Remittances may be made by registered letter, bank draft, postoffice or express money order. In case of error in putting up order or other cause of complaint, if notified immediately on receipt of goods we will rectify mistake at once.

**All Agreements** and contracts are, of course, made subject to loss of crop by drouth, flood, fire or other unavoidable causes.

### *When to Dig and How to Plant Fruit Trees*

All kinds of fruit trees should be dug in the fall. Whether it is best to plant the harder sorts in the fall or spring, fruit men of experience differ. Our own experience has led us to prefer planting in the spring.

**Heeling in Trees Received in the Fall.** Select a dry, sandy knoll. Cut lower string of each bunch and spread out the roots so that the fine soil can be tramped about them in trenches 12 inches deep. Tops should lean to the south at an angle of thirty degrees. Cover with earth two-thirds way up the bodies. The trenches can be made any length, according to convenience and the number of trees to be heeled in on. The earth thrown out of the second trench is used to cover trees in the first, and so on until all the trees are taken care of. Then cover all with evergreen boughs or some old boards arranged to shade the trees. As soon as spring arrives remove covering and straighten the trees up to prevent scalding and set out orchard as soon as possible, as early spring planting is one of the greatest advantages of fall delivery.

**Heeling in Stock Received in the Spring.** If trees are not procured until spring

great care should then be taken in getting them home, and as soon as they arrive the lower string of each bunch should be cut and the roots dipped well down into a barrel of thin mud. Then heel in covering roots and from six inches to a foot of the body with fine soil treaded in firmly about the roots.

**Planting.** In setting out the orchard it is a good plan, if the ground is dry, to keep the bunch you are setting from in a barrel half full of thin mud. Set trees a little deeper than they grew in the nursery. Be sure and tramp earth well about the roots and level up about the tree with a shovel full of loose dirt sprinkled on the top to prevent baking.

**Important.** It is frequently difficult to get a new orchard started to grow on land from which an old orchard has been recently removed. Especially is this true if land is poor, worn out, sandy soil where on account of cut worms above ground and root aphids below, it is impossible under ordinary cultural methods to get fruit trees, no matter how good, to start satisfactorily unless special pains are taken. We would suggest for such ground, besides fitting it thoroughly, that in planting good sized holes be dug and that fresh clay or loam obtained from land not before used for orchard purposes be used to fill in around the trees. Would also recommend a few fork fulls of manure be spread around each tree after planting. Unbleached wood ashes, nitrate of soda and tobacco dust sprinkled and hoed in are also good fertilizers for trees.

**Caution.** On light, sandy soil, where there are likely to be cut worms, trees must be protected. This may be done by wrapping the base of the tree with a roll of stiff smooth paper, much as you would protect a tomato or cabbage plant. Thousands of young peach trees are killed by cut worms every year without the purchaser suspecting anything is wrong as the buds are eaten out by the worms before the trees are ready to start.

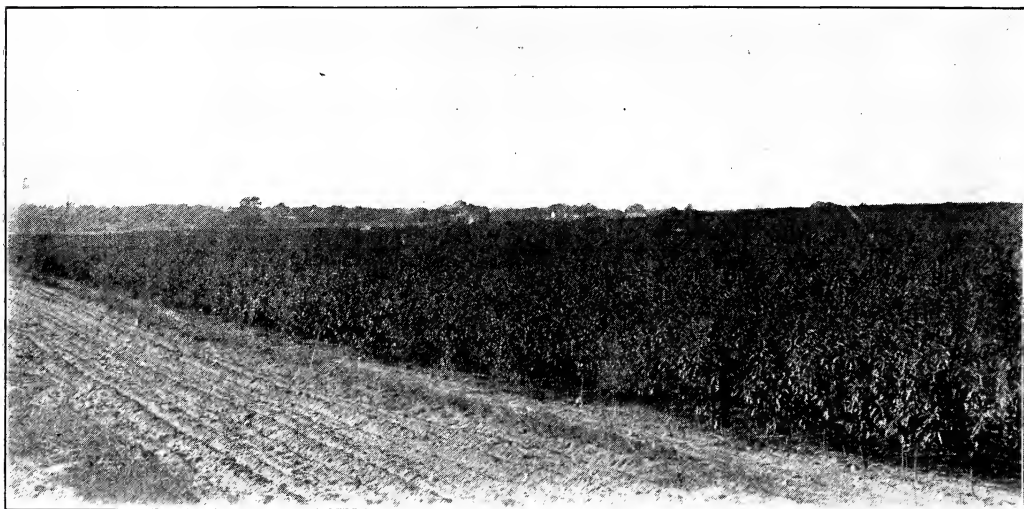
### *Number of Trees on an Acre*

40 feet apart each way.....	27	10 feet apart each way.....	435
30   "           "           .....	50	8   "           "           .....	680
25   "           "           .....	70	6   "           "           .....	1210
20   "           "           .....	110	5   "           "           .....	1742
18   "           "           .....	135	4   "           "           .....	2722
15   "           "           .....	200	3   "           "           .....	4840
12   "           "           .....	302		

**Rule.**—Multiply the distance in feet between the rows by the distance the plants are apart in the rows and the product will be the number of square feet for each plant or hill; which divided into the number of feet in an acre (43,560), will give the number of plants or trees to the acre.

## *The Peach*

Peach is our specialty in the nursery. We have a large orchard of bearing peach here on our home farm, and have been identified with the peach industry ever since it was commenced in Allegan and Van Buren counties—long before Kent, Newaygo, Oceana and Mason counties, now so famous for their fine peaches, were known to be a part of



The above cut represents one of our extensive Peach Nurseries. Our soil—natural peach land—  
Produces the finest system of roots in the world

the great Michigan Fruit Belt. We commenced selling peach trees in the fall of 1867 and succeeded in disposing of about 10,000 trees the first season, which contributed largely in giving Allegan and Van Buren counties their start in the peach business. Since then we have grown and sold a great many trees; in the earlier years we budded from 50,000 to 100,000 each fall; for the last twenty years or more we have budded from 200,000 to 600,000 each year, fearing all the time we would surely overdo the business, but as yet we have never grown as many trees as were required to fill our orders.

Our trees have nearly all been sold to neighbors and nearby growers; it was therefore easy for us to obtain full and reliable reports as to what varieties were most profitable. This, with our many years' experience in growing the peach, led us to drop many varieties that were found to be unprofitable and later to greatly shorten our list, which still contains more than is required to give ripe peaches every day from July to October.

Were we now to plant an orchard for market purposes our six leaders would be Crane's Early, Engle's Mammoth, Kalamazoo, Elberta, Smock and Salway.

There is no secret as to our methods of propagating peach trees. We use only natural seed procured where yellows and other diseases of the peach are unknown; take all the care known to the nursery science to obtain healthy buds of the best type procurable and plant on land especially fitted to grow the Hamilton peach tree.

We believe it is well to again caution planters against setting peach on old peach orchard sites, especially if the soil is sandy, unless an extra amount of fertilizing is done and pains taken in planting, and even then if the season is dry the result is often a disappointment. Until we know better how to treat these lands, in most cases it would be to the grower's interest to change from the peach to some other fruit. Apple or cherry will do admirably on most of these old sites. Grape also will succeed if the soil is dry.



In planting the orchard we would advise setting 20 feet by 20 feet each way. Below is given a description of the varieties of peach we grow, giving a succession from the earliest to the latest.

#### First Ripening.

✓ **ALEXANDER.**—Best of the first earlies; a medium to large white cling. Bears abundantly.

#### Second Ripening.

✓ **EARLY RIVERS.**—Large, pale greenish white; an enormous cropper; pays well some seasons; cling.

✓ **TRIUMPH.**—First of the yellow flesh varieties; medium size; crimson cheek; heavy bearer; rots badly some seasons; semi-cling.

#### Third Ripening.

✓ **HALE'S EARLY.**—A white cling; not planted as much as formerly.

#### Fourth Ripening.

✓ **CRANE'S EARLY YELLOW.**—A large, showy peach that commands the highest prices; freestone, yellow flesh, red cheek and good quality; apt to be shy in some locations, but where it succeeds a fine market sort.

✓ **CHAMPION.**—Large and handsome, creamy white flesh, with red cheek; sweet, rich and juicy; both hardy and productive.

✓ **LEWIS SEEDLING.**—A peach that has probably had its day as a profitable market sort, but many growers even now tell you they make more one year with another out of Lewis than any other variety. An iron-clad sort that bears when most of the other sorts fail; crimson cheek on a delicious creamy white background. Not a good shipper and has to compete with southern Elberta, which are on the market at the same time that it ripens here; flesh is white and quality one of the best.

#### Fifth Ripening.

✓ **EARLY CRAWFORD.**—One of the finest and best. Fruit very large, oblong, skin yellow, with beautiful red cheek; flesh yellow, juicy, sweet, excellent; freestone; quite shy in some locations; always in good demand; known everywhere.

✓ **WEED'S LARGE BARNARD.**—Best of the Barnard type. Good size, skin yellow, suffused nearly entirely over with red; one of the finest flavored peaches we know of; an excellent cropper, yellow flesh and perfect freestone, and superior in every way to the old Barnard. It is now



A Branch of Engle's Mammoth

over twenty years since our attention was called to a tree which was growing on the farm of Geo. Weed, at Douglass, and which seemed to be a most magnificent peach. Our original stock of Weed Barnard buds came from this tree. It is one of the most beautiful peaches we grow.

## Sixth Ripening.

**CONKLING.**—Medium to large and very handsome; skin golden yellow, marbled with crimson; flesh yellow and quality good; a heavy bearer.

**FITZGERALD.**—Similar to above; indeed, we believe it to be identical.

**ENGLE'S MAMMOTH.**—

This peach was originated on the Engle farm, near Paw Paw. Our first start of buds came from the Sargent orchard, near Fennville, and were carefully selected and cut from the best tree of twenty six-year-old trees, which produced that year 200 bushels. On our farm this variety has shown up the best of any peach we have on the place. Tree a most vigorous grower; fruit yellow flesh, skin yellow, with slight tinge of red on sunny side; quality the best; where thinned properly is as large as the Crawfords; an annual bearer of immense crops. We regard it as the best all round peach for the Michigan orchardist.

**NEW PROLIFIC.**—A

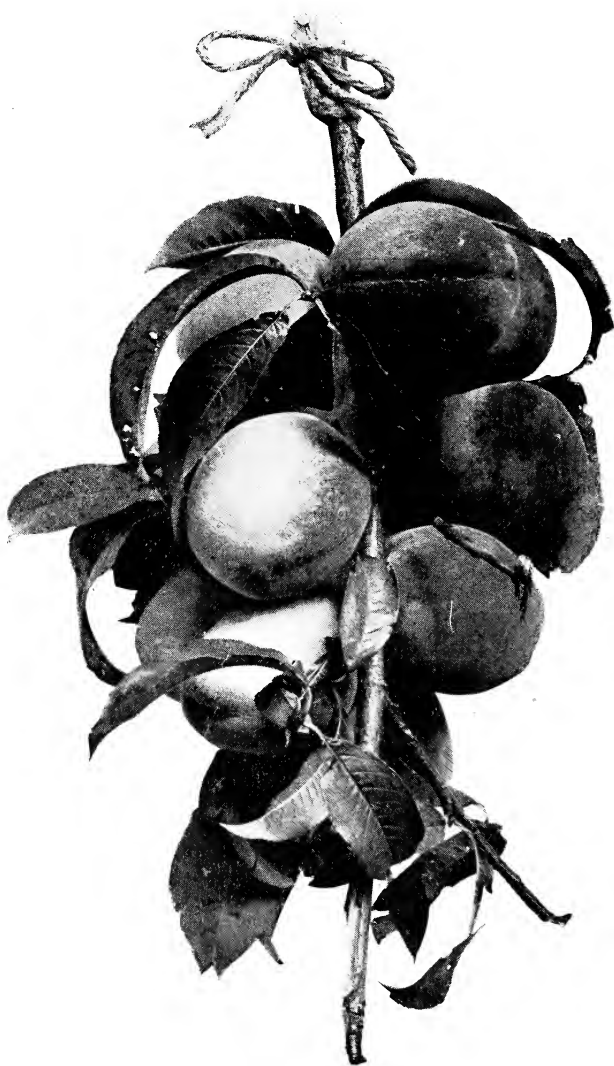
very fine peach and fast becoming one of the most popular Michigan varieties; medium to large; good cheek, good looker, good shipper, and a good eater; yellow flesh; hardy and productive.

## Seventh Ripening.

**KALAMAZOO.**—The following quoted from what Mr. Roland Morrill, of Benton Harbor, the widely known horticulturist, is reported to have said regarding this justly popular peach: "Originated in Kalamazoo, attracted attention by bearing large crops of large fruit of the highest quality in a locality where the peach is considered a failure. A wonderfully strong grower, bears full loads of fruit at two years

old, sets an enormous amount of fruit. My trees shed a large portion soon after bloom falls, but so far (four crops) have required some thinning. Size equals Early Crawford, more uniform, pit small, flesh thick, yellow, superb quality. Skin golden yellow, with light crimson cheek; fewest culls of any variety I ever saw; ripens between Early and Late Crawfords."

**BRNSON.**—Similar to above; thought by many to be identical.



Elberta Branch

**Eighth Ripening.**

✓ **ELBERTA.**—This variety is now undoubtedly the most popular market peach grown in America. Fruit large to very large and of beautiful appearance; yellow flesh and freestone; a great keeper, which makes it very valuable for long distance shipments. It is said it can be shipped to Europe and arrive there in perfect condition; productive in most localities and sells well everywhere.

**Ninth Ripening.**

✓ **LATE CRAWFORD.**—A very large, yellow flesh peach; skin greenish yellow, with red cheek on sunny side; in many places not very productive; succeeds in Kent county; sells well everywhere.

✓ **GOLD MINE.**—Resembles the above; said to be a much better bearer.

✓ **HILL'S CHILL.**—Used to be very popular, but of late years has not done well in many localities; medium size, yellow flesh with red cheek, but apt to run fuzzy; an enormous producer and frequently bears in years when others fail.

**Tenth Ripening.**

✓ **GOLD DROP.**—The variety the canneries like to get. A medium to large golden yellow peach, quality good, pit small and perfect freestone; one of the most productive and vigorous trees we have. Many growers say they would rather grow Gold Drop at 50 cents per bushel than Elbertas and Crawford's at \$1.00.

✓ **CHAIR'S CHOICE.**—Resembles the Late Crawford and will succeed any place a Crawford will do well. Large size, fine color, yellow flesh, freestone, very handsome; about a week later than Late Crawford.

**Eleventh Ripening.**

✓ **LEMON FREE.**—A large yellow flesh freestone peach of good quality; good bearer; like the Gold Drop, its chief commercial value will be in raising it for the canning trade.

✓ **SMOCK (Large Yellow).**—We have spent considerable time in looking up the most desirable type of Smock and have finally succeeded in finding a strain which is better in tree and fruit than is usually sent out as Smock or Beers' Smock. Fruit large, yellow



Trees breaking down with peaches on the Merry and Eldred farm east of town. We have sold these gentlemen thousands of trees.



flesh, freestone; skin yellow, with slight red cheek; productive and the tree does not break down as badly as the old Smock does.

**BANNER.**—A vigorous grower in both orchard and nursery. Fruit medium size, good color; very hardy and productive; yellow flesh; good cheek.

#### Twelfth Ripening.

**MERRIMAN.**—Originated on the Merriman farm, a few miles west of Bangor village. A large, beautiful peach; yellow flesh and freestone. On Mr. Merriman's farm it has proved very productive, and we feel sure it will become very popular as it becomes better known.

**SALWAY (Woodruff Strain).**—Our original buds came from a tree on the Woodruff farm, near Douglas. It seemed to be superior to anything in the neighborhood, and Mr. Woodruff thought this strain a distinct variety. Large, roundish; skin yellow, with crimson cheek on sunny side; quality good and perfect freestone; one of our best late peaches.

To prevent curl leaf on peach spray or dip trees in lime sulphur or bordeaux mixture.

## The Apple

The apple is again asserting its place as "King of Fruits" in the estimation of Michigan orchardists. With the advent of new methods of spraying the business of apple growing has been revolutionized. For the last few years it has brought in thousands of dollars to growers in the fruit belt. **Many growers are realizing from the proceeds of a single crop more than their entire farms would previously sell for.** Add to this that an apple tree outlasts the life of a fruit grower, an orchard well started is indeed an acquisition.

We are fortunate in having 30 acres of bearing apple orcharding, and whenever we have taken the trouble to exhibit our fruit at the local fairs we have succeeded in carrying off many premiums. In the fall of 1907, at the West Michigan Fair at Grand Rapids, out of 20 plates of apples we exhibited 19 plates carried off first premiums. We thus are enabled to cut buds and scions from as good types of each sort as are probably to be found in Michigan or elsewhere. **While soil and treatment had much to do in our success, there are many practical growers who insist that their nurseryman furnish trees grown from scions or buds cut from fruiting trees of known excellence. This, we are happy to state, we are prepared to do.**

Some growers are practicing the plan of setting out strong growing sorts and at 6 to 8 years top-working to the weaker growing kinds. For this purpose we would recommend any of the following sorts: Stark, Talman Sweet, Red Astrachan, Northern Spy and N. W. Greening.

**Distances for Planting.** Vigorous growing standard varieties should be planted 40 feet apart. A row of peach planted each way between may be used as fillers to be taken out when the standard apple need the ground. Compact growing, early bearing varieties, such as Duchess, Yellow Transparent, Wealthy and Wagner, might also be used as fillers.

## Summer Apples

**YELLOW TRANSPARENT.**—A Russian apple; tree as hardy as a crab; a good, upright grower; very abundant, regular and early bearer; the fruit full, medium size; color a rich transparent yellow with a faint blush on sunny side; flesh melting, juicy, pleasant; sub-acid. Ten days earlier than the Early Harvest and is the earliest apple known. Good for home use, and one of the most profitable for market.

**RED ASTRACHAN.**—Too well known to need much description. A medium to large crimson apple which is overspread with a thick bloom; handsome, juicy, but rather acid. Tree of the hardiest, vigorous and a good bearer in some localities.

**SWEET BOUGH.**—Tree a moderate grower; bears abundantly. Fruit is large, pale yellow and is tender, crisp, juicy and fine. The kind that makes the little boy's mouth water. August.

## Autumn Apples

**DUCHESS OF OLDENBERG.**—A Russian variety of remarkable beauty and one of



the most hardy and productive varieties under cultivation. Does especially well in sections that are too cold for ordinary varieties. Tree is a vigorous grower, and it requires little or no pruning, producing an abundance of fruit very even in size, which always sells well in market and is a money maker. Fruit medium to large in size. Smooth skin, finely washed and streaked with red on a golden ground, covered with a faint blue bloom. Flesh juicy, sub-acid. Ripens the fore part of September.

✓✓ **GOLDEN SWEET.**—Large; pale yellow; very sweet and good; vigorous; good bearer. August and September.

## *Winter Apples*

✓✓ **BALDWIN.**—Large, roundish; skin deep bright red, flesh juicy, crisp, sub-acid and good flavor; tree very vigorous, upright and in most places very productive; one of the most popular and profitable winter varieties. The apple the buyers always want December to March.

✓✓ **GRIMES' GOLDEN.**—Medium to large; cylindrical; golden yellow, sprinkled with gray dots; flesh crisp, tender, juicy, sprightly; very good to best. Tree hardy, vigorous, productive, bears early. January to April.

✓✓ **HUBBARDSTON NONSUCH (American Blush).**—Large, round; beautiful yellow, striped and splashed with red; flesh tender, juicy and fine with agreeable rich flavor, hard to distinguish between sweetness and acidity; tree vigorous; bears large crops and commences to bear quite young; one of the best market sorts.

✓✓ **JONATHAN.**—Medium size; red and yellow; flesh tender, juicy and rich; a moderate grower; shoots light colored, slender and spreading. One of the best varieties either for table or market. November to March.

✓✓ **KING (Thompkins County).**—Largest size; oblate, yellowish ground striped and covered with bright red; fragrant, spicy smelling; flesh very crisp, tender, rich, fine flavor.

✓✓ **FAMEUSE (Snow Apple).**—Medium, roundish, deep crimson; very handsome; flesh snowy white, tender, melting, juicy, high flavored, sub-acid, delicious. Tree moderate grower, very hardy and productive. Must be sprayed or fruit will scab. November to January.

✓✓ **McINTOSH RED.**—Large, roundish; skin mostly covered with light red or crimson, almost purplish in the sun; flesh white, fine, very tender, juicy, mild, sub-acid. Tree vigorous, extremely hardy and long lived. Good annual bearer. Very desirable. November to February.

✓✓ **NORTHERN SPY.**—Large, roundish, slightly conical, somewhat ribbed; striped with the sunny side nearly covered with purplish red. Flesh white and tender, with a mild sub-acid, rich and delicious flavor. In perfection in January and keeps till June. The tree is a strong, upright grower, and forms a very compact head. Should be kept open by pruning so as to admit the air and light freely.

✓✓ **RHODE ISLAND GREENING.**—Large, greenish yellow; tender, juicy and rich, with rather an acid flavor; growing strong and spreading; an abundant bearer. December to April.

✓✓ **NORTHWESTERN GREENING.**—Fruit much like Grimes' Golden in shape and color. Good quality and a long keeper. Season, January to June. Tree very hardy and vigorous. An annual and abundant bearer.

✓✓ **STARK.**—Large, roundish; greenish yellow, shaded, sprinkled and striped with light and dark red nearly all over the whole surface, and thickly sprinkled with light brown dots; flesh yellowish, moderately juicy, mild, sub-acid; tree vigorous, an early and abundant bearer, hardy; the fruit a long keeper and valuable market fruit. January to May.

✓✓ **TALMAN SWEET.**—Medium size; pale yellow, slightly tinged with red; firm, rich and sweet; excellent for cooking; tree vigorous, very hardy and productive. November to April.

✓✓ **WINTER BANANA.**—A vigorous grower; healthy foliage, and an early bearer. Fruit large and handsome; golden yellow shaded with bright crimson. Flesh fine grained and of highest quality. A good shipper and seller.

✓✓ **WAGENER.**—Medium to large; light yellow, covered with deep red in the sun;

firm, crisp, juicy, sub-acid; tree vigorous, upright, handsome, very productive, but tree is a very poor grower in the orchard.

**WEALTHY.**—Medium roundish; skin smooth, oily, whitish yellow, mostly covered with dark red; flesh white, fine, juicy, vinous, sub-acid; very good; one of the best and finest apples grown; tree vigorous, extremely hardy; one of the Ironclads; a very early and abundant bearer. Deserves the widest cultivation. November to February.

## *Crab Apples*

**HYSLOP.**—Fruit large, produced in clusters, roundish, ovate, dark rich red, covered with thick blue bloom. Stock long and slender. Tree hardy, vigorous, spreading; very desirable; the very best. October to January.

## *The Pear*

The pear is another fruit that modern methods are making exceedingly profitable. With improved spraying and a better understanding of the treatment of the blight the pear is becoming a veritable gold mine to many of our leading orchardists. Men like G. L. Green, or Judge Stearns, of South Haven, or J. H. Crane, of Fennville, have had single crops that have netted several hundred dollars an acre. Coupled with the fact that the pear is nearly as long lived and hardy as the apple and comes in bearing at five to seven years of age, it surely deserves a place in the commercial orchard.



Grimes Golden Apple Tree on farm of A. Hamilton & Sons. Owing to the dense foliage the fruit cannot be seen to good advantage but the season the above photo was taken this tree produced twelve barrels of apples.

We have some flourishing young orchards started and we are therefore in a position to study and cut our buds from the best type of each variety. Pear succeeds on a variety of soils, but thrives best on a rather heavy loam. Pear is grown as a standard on its own root and as a dwarf on the quince. From our own experience we would much prefer the standard to the dwarf in every way.

The worst trouble pear growers have to contend with is blight. Where blight is noticed any limb so affected should be removed and burned at once. Care should be taken to cut about ten inches below what shows to be affected. If this is done thoroughly and promptly, as a rule, no one will have serious trouble from this source. Dwarfs should have low heads and one-half of previous season's growth should be cut off each spring. Plant standards 20 feet apart and dwarfs 12 feet apart.

✓✓ **BARTLETT.**—Large size with often a beautiful blush next the sun; buttery, very juicy and high flavored; bears early and abundantly; very popular. August and September.

✓✓ **CLAPP'S FAVORITE.**—Very large; yellowish green to full yellow when ripe; mottled with dull red in the sun, and covered with small russet specks; vinous, melting and rich. Should be gathered early. August.

✓✓ **HOWELL.**—Medium size; light waxen yellow; sweet and melting, of excellent quality; a strong and hardy grower and good bearer. One of the best American varieties and extensively planted all over the country. In season during September and October.

✓✓ **SECKEL.**—Small; skin rich yellowish brown with a deep brownish red cheek; flesh very fine grained, sweet, exceedingly juicy, melting, buttery; the richest and highest flavored pear known. September and October.

✓✓ **LOUISE BONNIE DE JERSEY.**—Medium size, oblong; pale green in the shade, but overspread with brownish red in the sun; very juicy and melting with a rich and excellent flavor; a profitable market variety, succeeding on either quince or pear root. In season during September and October.

✓✓ **BUERRE CLAIRGEAU.**—We call particular attention to this variety, on account of its importance and popularity. Its size, early bearing, productiveness and beauty render it a profitable market variety. It should only be grown as a standard. Very large, light yellow shaded with crimson and russet; an early and abundant bearer. From its handsome appearance and productiveness, one of our best market varieties, and is extensively planted for that purpose. October to December.

✓✓ **KIEFFER.**—Probably no fruit has ever had so much praise and condemnation, but the fact that large growers who planted orchards of it several years ago are still planting it largely is the best evidence of its value; while not of best quality, properly ripened it is a fair dessert fruit and one of the very best for canning and preserving. Its large size and handsome appearance will always cause it to sell readily on the market. Its freedom from blight, early bearing, wonderful productiveness, exceedingly vigorous growth and handsome appearance all indicate that it has come to stay. October and November.

✓✓ **LAWRENCE.**—Rather large; yellow, covered with brown dots; flesh whitish, slightly granular, somewhat buttery, with a very rich, aromatic flavor; unsurpassed among the early winter pears; ripens with little care; should be in every orchard; tree healthy, hardy and productive. Free grower. November to January.

✓✓ **ANJOU** (Beurre d'Anjou).—A large, handsome pear, buttery and melting with sprightly vinous flavor; keeps into mid-winter. Tree a vigorous grower and good bearer. We have no hesitation in pronouncing it to be one of the most valuable pears in the catalogue. Does equally well as a standard or a dwarf. Keeps until the winter holidays, when it commands very high prices in the market. D. and S.

## *Dwarf Pears*

The fruit grown on the dwarf trees is as large and fine as the fruit grown on the standard trees, and the Duchess D'Angouleme produces its largest and finest fruit when grown as a dwarf. Among the few varieties that succeed as dwarfs are Louise Bonnie, described above, and Anjou, described above.

✓✓ **DUCHESS D'ANGOULEME.**—Very large size with rough and uneven surface, of a greenish yellow, with patches of russet and a dull red cheek; a vigorous and strong



grower and good bearer while quite young. It attains its greatest perfection on the quince root. In season during October and November.

## Quinces

**ORANGE.**—The oldest and best; fruit large, bright yellow, of excellent flavor; a good bearer.

## Cherries

The cherry thrives best on a dry, sandy or gravelly soil, and there attains its highest perfection, but will do well in almost any situation, except a wet one.

We divide them into two classes: (1) Hearts and Bigarreus; (2) Dukes and Morellos. The former are strong, vigorous growers, making large, open, spreading heads, their fruit is large, heart shaped, meaty, and sweet. The Dukes and Morellos do not attain so large size, but are more hardy and less liable to injury from bursting the bark; their fruit is usually sour.

For dry soils we rate the cherry, and particularly the Morello class, one of the most profitable fruits grown. The Hearts and Bigarreus are profitable for home market, but for shipping the Dukes and Morellos carry the best and yield the largest returns. Ordinary well-grown trees produce from five bushels per tree upwards, and the fruit bears one year with another two to three dollars per bushel. Plant 18 to 20 feet apart.

### *Heart and Bigarreau Cherries*

**BLACK TARTARIAN.**—Very large; purplish black; tender; flavor mild and pleasant. Tree a remarkably vigorous, erect, and beautiful grower. Ripe last of June and beginning of July. One of the most popular varieties in all parts of the country.

**GOV. WOOD.**—The finest of the light red; tender and delicious. Tree a vigorous grower. End of June.

**NAPOLEON.**—At the Michigan Experiment Station the Napoleon is considered the most productive of the yellow sweet cherries; fruit large, heart shaped and mottled with red; texture firm and quality fair. The trees are hardy and thrifty, and one of the most profitable sweet cherries they have on trial.

**WINSOR.**—Fruit large, liver colored, distinct; flesh remarkably firm and of excellent quality.

**YELLOW SPANISH.**—Large; pale yellow, with red cheek; firm, juicy, and excellent; one of the best light colored cherries. Last of June.

### *Duke and Morello Cherries*

**EARLY RICHMOND.**—An early red, sour cherry; very valuable for cooking early in the season. Ripens through June. Tree a free grower, hardy, healthy, and very productive. Usually bears full at three years after planting. A favorite with the canners.

**MONTMORENCY.**—No doubt one of the finest sour cherries; tree very hardy and an immense bearer; commences to fruit while young and is loaded annually thereafter with fine crops; fruit good size, fine flavor, and of bright, clear, shining red; valuable everywhere, especially for northern latitudes; about a week later than Early Richmond.

**MORELLO ENGLISH.**—Large; dark red, nearly black; juicy, acid. Tree dwarf and slender; makes a fine bush on the Mahaleb. If trained on a north wall, it may be in use all the month of August. Tree rather tender here.

## Plums

Most of the cultivated varieties of plums are European or the descendants of European varieties. But in recent years we have received some valuable varieties from



Japan. The Japan plums are very strong growers and come into bearing much sooner than do the European sorts and are less liable to be injured by the curculio.

The plum likes a gravelly clay soil for best results, but the Japan varieties do well on lighter soils.

Good cultivation is an essential to successful plum growing. Plant 20 feet apart.

## Japan Plums

✓ **RED JUNE.**—An early ripening Japanese plum; medium to large, roundish, conical, purplish red, handsome; flesh yellow. quality good.

✓ **ABUNDANCE (Botan).**—One of the best Japan plums. The tree is a very rapid grower, healthy in limb and foliage; comes into bearing remarkably young, and yields abundantly. The fruit is full medium size, color a rich, bright cherry red, with a distinct bloom, and highly perfumed; flesh light yellow, very juicy and tender. Last of July.

✓ **BURBANK.**—Very similar to Abundance, but of deeper color and ripening later in the season. The fruit is large, nearly globular, clear cherry red with a thin lilac bloom; flesh a deep yellow, very sweet, with a peculiar and agreeable flavor. The tree is a vigorous grower, with large and broad leaves; usually begins to bear second year after transplanting. August.

✓ **WICKSON (A new Japanese plum; a cross between Kelsey and Burbank).**—The tree grows in vase form, sturdy and upright, yet as gracefully branching as could be desired, and is productive almost to a fault. The fruit is evenly distributed all over the tree, and from the time it is half grown until a few days before ripening is of a pearly white color, but all at once soft pink shadings begin to creep over it, and in a few days it has changed to a glowing carmine with a heavy white bloom; the stone is small and the flesh is of fine texture, firm, sugary, and delicious, and will keep two weeks or more after ripening, or can be picked when hard and white and will color and ripen almost as well as if left on the tree. Ripens about September 1st.

## European Plums

✓ **BRADSHAW.**—A very large and fine early plum; dark violet red, juicy and good. Tree vigorous, erect and productive. A valuable market variety. One of the best. Middle of August.

✓ **LOMBARD.**—Medium size, oval; violet red; flesh yellow, juicy and pleasant. A great bearer and peculiarly adapted to light soils. Tree vigorous and hardy; succeeds when most other varieties fail. The most popular and profitable plum under general cultivation. Last of August.

✓ **REINE CLAUDE DE BAVAY.**—Large, nearly round; pale yellow, marked with red; juicy, melting and excellent; good bearer; not liable to rot. One of the most profitable for market. Vigorous. First of September.

✓ **SHROPSHIRE DAMSON.**—A plum of fine quality, as free from the attacks of the curculio as the common Damson, and of the same color. The flesh is amber colored, juicy and sprightly. Very productive and a valuable market variety. Not liable to rot. Free. September.

✓ **GERMAN PRUNE (Quetsche).**—Large, oval, purple or blue; juicy, rich; fine. September.

✓ **GRAND DUKE.**—Color of Bradshaw; fruit very large, of fine quality, free from rot; very productive. Tree moderate grower. Last September.

✓ **MONARCH.**—Tree robust, dense foliage, an abundant bearer; fruit very large, roundish, oval, dark purplish blue, perfect freestone. Follows Grand Duke in ripening. October.

## Grapes

Grapes require soil that has naturally good drainage for best results. Not profitable to grow for market close to the lake, but in some of the inland sections on high and



**Concord Grapes as they grow in the Michigan grape belt. We sell thousands of vines of this one variety every year.**

dry sandy and gravelly loams it has paid remarkably well. Thousands of acres of grapes have been planted in the vicinities of Lawton and Paw Paw, and the well-kept vineyards and prosperous looking farms there attest to its profit more than any words a nurseryman may say.

**MOORE'S EARLY.**—A large blue grape, ripening a week earlier than Concord; good grower; berries large, good quality, and makes a moderate yield; very valuable as an early grape.

**WORDEN.**—A blue grape of good quality; ripens a week before the Concord, which it much resembles.

**DELAWARE.**—Fruit small, reddish and of the highest quality.

**CONCORD.**—The leading market grape of Michigan. Large; blue; good quality; very productive and hardy.

**NIAGARA.**—A very fine large white grape.

## *Currants and Gooseberries*

Both like for best results a strong loam and need good cultivation, vigorous pruning and heavy manuring.

**CURRENT.**—London Market (red); Victoria (red); White Grape (white); Black Naples (black).

**GOOSEBERRY.**—Houghton, Downing.

**ASPARAGUS.**—Should be in every garden. Very easily grown. Conover's Colossal, Bar's Mammoth.